

conversation that I heard earlier this week with Senators WARNER and CHAMBLISS, and a group of nearly 20 Senators on both sides, who committed themselves to work on the debt commission. I hope we can, in the Appropriations Committee, start out the year with some way of agreeing on a ceiling, and then work together to work within that ceiling so we can run the government.

A continuing resolution for a year is a lousy way to run a government. It wastes money, because you end up funding things that should be cut and not funding things that need increases. I think this was the right result for the American people of the choices we had tonight. But there could be a better choice. It is our responsibility to see next year if we can offer ourselves, and therefore the American people, that choice.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

Mr. CORKER. I also thank the Senator from Illinois. I thank the senior Senator from Tennessee, who is always doing and saying the right thing from the floor and leads us in such a great way.

I say to the Senator from Illinois, through the Chair, I hope there is some way that we don't let what happened over the course of the last 3 months on the deficit reduction commission go to waste. I fear that what is happening right now is that people are beginning to talk about some kind of situation where we then revisit all of these things for the next year or so. I know I am not privy to all the details that all of you worked on for so long, but I do think when this debt ceiling vote

comes up, which will be in April, May, or maybe the first week in June, it seems to me that is the next moment in the Senate.

I talked with some of the members of the deficit reduction commission on my side and certainly look forward to talking to the Senator from Illinois about the same thing. I hope there is a way that we actually vote on something that is real and not kick this down the road with some meaningless resolution that makes the American people think we have done something, when in actuality we have done nothing and just kicked it down the road.

I thank the Chair and I hope that is the case.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2010

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, December 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to execu-

tive session to resume consideration of the New START treaty.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, the START treaty will be open to amendments tomorrow. Senators are encouraged to come to the floor to offer and debate their amendments. Rollcall votes are possible to occur throughout the day.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:36 p.m., adjourned until Friday, December 17, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate, Thursday, December 16, 2010:

THE JUDICIARY

CATHERINE C. EAGLES, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

KIMBERLY J. MUELLER, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

JOHN A. GIBNEY, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.

JAMES KELLEHER BREDAR, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.